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**From:** michael k. amish <thespicekid@yahoo.com>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 27, 1999 11:42 AM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by michael k. amish (thespicekid@yahoo.com)  
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 10:42:10

---

comments: microradio must be given non-commercial status for our efforts to have served any real purpose or impact in giving voices to the voiceless in this medium.

address: 1027 NE 1st Ave

city: Gainesville

state: FL

zip: 32601

Submit: Send to FCC

---

**To:** The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
455 Twelfth Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore  
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition  
cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

MM Docket No. 99-25  
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

Dear Honorable Chairman Kennard,

We are writing to commend you and the Federal Communications Commission for taking action on an issue of great importance to us - ending the 21-year ban on community access to the airwaves. We have become increasingly concerned about the growing concentration of the media in our country and are pleased that the Commission is responding to public outcry to increase opportunities for local communities to use our radio airwaves.

One of the fundamental tenets of our democracy is to ensure that diverse interests have opportunities to express themselves, not

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Radio is perhaps the most qualified of any media outlet to provide community access. It is a relatively inexpensive medium to produce and is well-suited to cover community issues and local culture. Unfortunately, over the past three years the U.S. radio broadcasting industry has experienced an unprecedented wave of consolidation and mergers. As a result, the electronic medium best suited to inexpensive, local programming has become arguably the most regimented and centralized of our major media. Even a multimillionaire would have trouble entering the radio broadcasting industry today, because economies of scale (permitted by deregulation) demand that a firm own numerous stations in several markets to be even remotely competitive. As for the person of average means, their lot is limited to being a passive consumer of an increasingly monopolistic industry that has less and less competitive pressure to heed the diverse, local needs of listeners. And, for poor people and others who are considered unimportant to the advertising community, radio increasingly has little to offer. Again, the great tragedy of this situation is that radio is the ideal medium to provide an accessible local service for democratic communications of interest and value to the entire population.

Awarding licenses for new low power FM radio stations would empower local communities with a new public forum to express its many voices, cultures, ideas, and needs. Low power radio stations would create much needed public fora for a variety of groups - including community activists, youth, ethnic and linguistic minorities, the religious community, local artists and cultural associations - and provide a forum for dialogue and debate about important local and public interest issues. These kinds of stations would strengthen community identity in urban neighborhoods, rural towns and other communities which are currently too small to win attention from "mainstream", profit-driven media.

The strong interest in independent radio stations shows that the creation of low power radio service would have wide public support. The tremendous demand for microradio is demonstrated by the emergence of a national Free Radio Movement, widespread civil disobedience, constitutional challenges of the Commission's aggressively enforced 21-year ban, as well as the proliferation of unlicensed community radio stations supported by local government, whose operators broadcast at the risk of financial losses, seizure of property, arrest, and in some cases, imprisonment.

In addition, the Commission has stated that in the last year alone, 13,000 people inquired regarding the possibility of obtaining a license for low power broadcasting in their communities. In support with the efforts of the Microradio Empowerment Coalition ([mec@tao.ca](mailto:mec@tao.ca)) and Americans for Radio Diversity ([ard@radparker.com](http://ard@radparker.com)), we urge you to legalize microradio

in order to benefit non-commercial community groups whose interest in microradio is to communicate, to educate, and to inform, not to make money. We are confident you agree that broad citizen access to information and culture is at the heart of a democratic society.

To support this vision, we urge you to legalize microradio with the following concerns in mind:

1. Microradio licenses should be awarded for non-commercial use only. The current radio spectrum is dominated by commercial media. LPFM licenses should go to non-commercial community groups who want to use radio to communicate with their neighbors, not make profit from them.
2. Licenses should be held locally, be non-transferable, affordable to all communities, easy to apply for and limited to one per license holder; they should NOT be businesses.
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12. Licensing fees should be affordable to all communities.

Again, we commend Chairman Kennard and the Commission for your willingness to address these issues. We are hopeful that the creation of a new class of low power FM radio licensing becomes a reality during the Chairman's present term. We look forward to working on making the airwaves more accessible for our local communities.

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MEC Honorary Chair:  
Robert W. McChesney, Madison

Steering Committee:  
Sara Zia Ebrahimi, Philadelphia  
Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco  
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
Alan Korn, San Francisco  
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University  
Nancy Kranich--Librarian  
Ron Daniels--Executive Director, Center for Constitutional Rights  
George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement  
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
Janine Jackson--Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting  
Herbert Schiller--Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego  
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Efia Nwangaza -- Attorney/Coordinator, Greenville Malcolm X Grassroots

Movement for Self Determination

Dan Simon--Founder, Seven Stories Press

Gary Ruskin--Director, Commercial Alert

Barbara Ehrenreich--Author

Gloria Steinem--Ms.

Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist

Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

**From:** Zach Priebe <FETOID@aol.com>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 26, 1999 9:55 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Zach Priebe (FETOID@aol.com)  
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 20:55:47

---

comments: To not support the Microradio campaign is equal to not supporting democracy

address: 1220 E. Franklin

city: Indianola

state: IA

zip: 50125

Submit: Send to FCC

---

**To:** The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

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Diane Fleming, Philadelphia  
Peter Franck, San Francisco  
Amanda Huron, Washington, D.C.  
Alan Korn, San Francisco  
Greg Ruggiero, New York City

Noam Chomsky--Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Howard Zinn--Professor Emeritus, Boston University  
Nancy Kranich--Librarian  
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George Gerbner--Founder, Cultural Environment Movement  
Edward Herman--Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

**From:** Matt Holloway <pearth@bellsouth.net>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 26, 1999 10:51 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Matt Holloway (pearth@bellsouth.net)  
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 21:51:28

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

address: 116 liberty pike

city: franklin

state: tn

zip: 37064

Submit: Send to FCC

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Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
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Barbara Ehrenreich--Author  
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Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL

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**From:** David S. Rutherford <dscott@earthlink.net>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 27, 1999 1:54 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25



This email was submitted by David S. Rutherford (dscott@earthlink.net)  
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 12:54:47

comments: I support the creation of an LPFM radio system in the US. I believe that this is a natural extension of our first ammendment rights.

address: 7005 Lanewod Ave

address2: Apt 325

city: Hollywood

state: CA

zip: 90028

Submit: Send to FCC

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Gloria Steinem--Ms.  
Mumia Abu-Jamal--Journalist  
Kurt Vonnegut-- Author

ORIGINAL

**From:** Thurston E. Wilkes, III <moonpie@teclink.net> **EX PARTE OR LATE FILED**  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Mon, Jul 26, 1999 11:27 AM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by Thurston E. Wilkes, III (moonpie@teclink.net)  
on Monday, July 26, 1999 at 10:27:12

---

address: 220 Elm Street

address2: Apartment #6

city: Oxford

state: MS

zip: 38655

Submit: Send to FCC

---

**To:** The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
455 Twelfth Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore  
cc: Microradio Empowerment Coalition  
cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

MM Docket No. 99-25  
Regarding The Creation of Low Power FM Licenses: RM-9242, RM-9208

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**ORIGINAL**

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

**From:** Hep Ingham <ingham@igc.apc.org>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:34 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

**RECEIVED**

JUL 28 1999

This email was submitted by Hep Ingham (ingham@igc.apc.org)  
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 13:34:12

comments: Dear Mr. Kennard,

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The control of information by business steers the media to frame, shape and otherwise change reporting to fit business interests. The general public needs and must have access to the information apparatus to project people centered information rather than profit centered.

Please consider the moral and ethical ramifications of this act and support public broadcasting without business control.

address: 218 Portland #1

city: Houston

state: tx

zip: 77006

Submit: Send to FCC

To: The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
455 Twelfth Street S.W.  
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cc: President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Vice President Al Gore  
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cc: Americans for Radio Diversity

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ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

**From:** John David Templeton <dtmpltn@perigee.net>  
**To:** ROUTE\_A.GWIA1("fcomments@casiotone.radparker.com")  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 27, 1999 2:34 PM  
**Subject:** In Support of the MEC Letter on MM Docket No. 99-25

This email was submitted by John David Templeton (dtmpltn@perigee.net)  
on Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 13:34:51

---

comments: Please!

address: 9308 Pebble Creek Way

city: Charlotte

state: NC

zip: 28269

Submit: Send to FCC

---

**To:** The Honorable William E. Kennard Chairman  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Harold Furchgott-Roth

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